

JOSEPH R. MURDOCK

The name of Hon. Joseph R. Murdock of Charleston and Heber City is synonymous with the development of irrigation interests in the West. He has contributed to public progress along various lines and in no field have his labors been more far-reaching and resultant than in behalf of the reclamation of the arid lands through the conservation and distribution of the water supply of this section of the country. Mr. Murdock's efforts in this connection alone entitle him to rank not only with the cap-

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ains of industry, but with the benefactors of the race. The story of his life is an interesting one—the record of earnest endeavor crowned with successful achievement. Mr. Murdock was born in Salt Lake City, August 11, 1858, his parents being N. C. and Sarah M. (Barney) Murdock. In 1864, N. C. Murdock removed to Charleston, Wasatch County, Utah.

Joseph R. Murdock was reared to young manhood upon his father's farm and was educated in the schools of Charleston, supplemented by study in the Brigham Young Academy, now the Brigham Young University. In 1872 he became associated with his father in farming and stock raising and carried on the business extensively. They also established the first creamery in Charleston and further extended the scope of their activities. They opened a general merchandise store in 1875, their trade steadily growing into a business which was incorporated in 1890, at which time Joseph R. Murdock was elected the manager of the enterprise.

There is no man more widely or favorably known as a representative of the irrigation interests of the West. He has done more beyond a doubt to further irrigation than has any other one man in the state of Utah, or perhaps in the West. He organized the Provo Reservoir Company, of which he is president. This project now supplies water to 10,000 acres of land and

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has sufficient water for 10,000 acres additional. The project was developed at a cost of a million dollars. The main office of the company is in the Knight Building at Provo. Mr. Murdock also is the president of the Bank of Heber City, which does a business amounting to one-half million dollars annually, and he is the president of the Sugar Centrifugal Discharging Company of Salt Lake City, manufacturers of sugar machinery and employing about 30 men.

In 1878, Mr. Murdock was married to Miss Margaret Wright, a daughter of William and Jemima (Dadds) Wright. They became parents of 11 children.

In 1903, Mr. Murdock removed with his family to Heber and was there, in 1905, called to the presidency of the Wasatch Stake, which he has since filled. In politics, Mr. Murdock is a Democrat and was a staunch supporter of President Wilson and his League of Nations policy. He served three terms as county commissioner of Wasatch County and was a member of the constitutional convention. He was also a member of the lower house of the Utah Legislature during the first and second sessions of the general assembly, and in the fall of 1900 he was elected state senator. During that session he was the father of the dairy bill, which was enacted into law, and he served on many important committees. He gave most earnest and thoughtful consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement during his legislative career, and left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the assembly enactments. He still owns and maintains his home in Heber and also, because of his business relations there, he has a home in Provo, he and his family dividing their time between the two cities.

The life record of Joseph R. Murdock is indeed a creditable one. His life has been actuated by high purposes and earnest endeavor, productive of splendid results, and among Utah's most useful and honored citizens Joseph R. Murdock is named.

MURDOCK, Joseph R., president of the Wasatch Stake. (Continued from Vol. 1, page 361.) At the re-



quest of President Wm. H. Smart, President Joseph R. Murdock moved to Heber City in December, 1902. At the quarterly conference at Heber City, August 12, 1906, he was chosen

and set apart as president of the Wasatch Stake, with James C. Jensen as his first and Edward D. Clyde as his second counselor. This call came to President Murdock in consequence of President Wm. H. Smart having been appointed to preside over the Uintah Stake of Zion. After the new presidency assumed their position in the Wasatch Stake they continued the noble work commenced by their predecessors in fighting the liquor traffic, which resulted in all the saloons in the county being closed, and the sale of liquor practically suspended. They also arranged for amusements in the Stake to be placed under the supervision of the Church authorities. Before President Smart left the Stake, President Murdock was appointed by the presidency of the Wasatch Stake to assist in various irrigation projects, looking to the reclaiming of the arid lands in what was then known as the Uintah Indian Reservation. In this capacity President Murdock took the initiative in getting out the waters upon the lands in what is known now as the Dry Gulch Irrigation Company, which represents about 80,000 acres of agricultural land. This project has been carried out successfully and thousands of homes have been benefitted thereby. In developing the water rights of the Provo river, President Murdock's services have been extended into Utah and Salt Lake counties, where two irrigation companies have been organized, providing for the storing of waters of the Provo river, and of the pumping of water out of the Utah Lake to an elevation of 100 feet from where it is carried into Salt Lake county as far as Little Cottonwood on the east and Bennion Ward on the west side. By these projects over 10,000 acres of land have been brought under cultivation, and when the canals are completed 20,000 acres more will be benefitted thereby. President Murdock has taken part in the development of many of the resources of Wasatch county and is now president of the bank of Heber City, and the Heber Mercantile Company. Together with his sons and sons-in-law he is largely interested in farming and sheep-raising. *LDS Biog Ency Vol 3: 175-6*



North Kindergarten Koalas



Chuck Maynard, Zion's Bank, Colleen Tolley, lead teacher; Marilyn Baird, Principal, and Susan Wootton, Zion's Bank.

The children at North School have had a fun time decorating the tree donated to us by Zions Bank. It is a beautiful, large tree in the center of the foyer and each child made a decoration for it.

On Thursday, Chuck Maynard, Susan Wootton, Audrey Stevens and Pam Cummings visited the school to see the decorated tree and hear the children sing Christmas carols. A check was presented to Mrs. Baird by Chuck Maynard to be used at the school. Candy canes and cookies were presented to the children and it was a very enjoyable time.

12-21-88

We express our thanks to Zions Bank for their generosity in behalf of the Kindergarteners.

Miss Tingey and Mrs. Tolley met some other children at Kathy Lange's home on Monday afternoon to present a Christmas program to the DUP Forget-Me-Not Camp. The children sang songs and recited a special poem Mrs. Tolley's children learn each Christmas time. We thank Mrs. Lange for inviting us to perform for them.

The staff and children at North School wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!